

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, comprising an outermost layers including a heat sealable thermoplastic polymer.
3. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein said expanded polymer layer in its cells and/or open cavities is filled with an anaerobic gas or has a lower partial pressure of oxygen.
4. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein the expanded polymer has at least about 500 cells/mm³.
5. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein said expanded polymer layer has cells, which are closed without connection between the cellular cavities.

Claims 6-8 (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein the first rigid polymer component is selected from the group consisting of a high density polyethylene and high melt-strength polypropylene and that the second, ductile polymer component has been selected from the group consisting of a low density polyethylene and a general-purpose grade of polypropylene.

10. (Currently Amended) Multilayer structure for packaging having a bending resistance/rigidity of at least 100 mN, at least comprising an intermediate layer of an expanded polymer and on each side of said expanded polymer layer, a gas barrier layer, the material of the gas barrier layer having an oxygen gas permeability of less than about $2000 \text{ cm}^3/\text{m}^2$ at 23°C and 0% RH, per $1 \mu\text{m}$ thickness, during 24 h, at 1 atm, wherein the expandable polymer material comprises a first rigid component and a second ductile polymer component, wherein a mixing ratio of the first, rigid polymer component to the second, ductile polymer component in the expanded polymer layer is about 1:1.5 ~~less than 1:1~~.

11. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein said gas barrier layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of ethylenevinyl alcohol (EVOH), polyamide (PA), polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC), polyvinyl alcohol (PVOH), polyethylene naphthenate (PEN), polyacrylonitrile (PAN), copolymers from acrylonitrile and butylene, SiOx or carbon plasma coatings ("diamond coatings").

12. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein it further comprises on each side of the expanded polymer a homogeneous layer contributing to the total rigidity of the multilayer structure, which layer comprises a polymer selected from a group consisting of high density polyethylene (HDPE), polypropylene (PP), polyethyleneterephthalate (PET) and polybutyleneterephthalate (PBT).

13. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein said gas barrier layers, on each side of the expanded polymer layer, have a thickness and comprise a material such as to contribute to the total rigidity of the multilayer structure.

14. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein said layers have been laminated to each other in one operation by means of co-extrusion of the layers.

15. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein it comprises on each side of said expanded polymer layer, a paper layer.

16. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein the gas barrier layer is directly bonded to the expanded polymer layer.

17. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 15, wherein the material in said gas barrier layer at least comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of ethylenevinyl alcohol (EVOH) or polyvinyl alcohol (PVOH).

18. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 15, wherein the gas barrier polymer has been applied onto the paper layers by means of liquid film coating technology.

19. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 15, wherein the gas barrier polymer material further comprises a copolymer additive containing functional groups selected from the group consisting essentially of carboxylic acid groups, carboxylic acid anhydride groups, metal salts of carboxylic acids and acetate groups.

20. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 15, wherein the gas barrier polymer comprises PVOH and an ethylene acrylic acid copolymer (EAA).

21. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 15, wherein the paper layers have a surface weight of between about 20 g/m² and about 120 g/m².

Claims 22-28 (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) Dimensionally stable packaging container manufactured from the multilayer structure as defined in claim 10.

30. (Previously Presented) An extrusion-blow moulded container having a multilayer wall structure as defined in claim 10.

Claim 31 (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging, according to claim 4, wherein the expanded polymer has at least about 1000 cells/mm³.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging, according to claim 13, wherein the material of the gas barrier layers is polyamide (PA), PEN, EVOH, PAN or copolymers from acrylonitrile and butylene.

35. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure for packaging, according to claim 34, wherein the material of the gas barrier layers is polyamide (PA).

36. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 21, wherein the paper layers have a surface weight of between about 30 g/m² and about 60 g/m².

37. (Previously Presented) Multilayer structure according to claim 36, wherein the paper layers have a surface weight of between about 40 g/m² and about 60 g/m².

38. (Currently Amended) Multilayer structure for packaging according to claim 10, wherein the first, rigid polymer component is HDPE and the second, ductile polymer component is LDPE and ~~wherein the mixing ratio is 1:1.5.~~